

START



The Environmental
Restoration of Hanford

Facts

Washington State Public Participation Grants

What are they?

Citizens' groups and non-profit organizations can become actively involved in Hanford cleanup by applying for Public Participation Grants offered by the State of Washington.

Public participation grants can provide up to \$50,000 to non-profit public interest organizations and citizens' groups. The public participation grants are intended to give interested or affected groups the resources to become involved in interpreting, investigating and participating in the cleanup process.

Grant money can be used to hire technical experts to help interpret and understand documents pertaining to the releases and threatened releases of hazardous substances, and for development of projects to implement the state's solid and hazardous waste management priorities.

Where does the money come from?

The money for the grants comes from a tax on first possession of hazardous substances in Washington state. This tax was created in November 1988 when voters passed an initiative creating a comprehensive hazardous substance cleanup program. The Model Toxics Control Act authorizes the Washington Department of Ecology to allocate one percent of the state toxics control account and one percent of the local toxics control account for public participation grants. For 1989

through 1991, the estimated allocation is \$476,000. That amount could change in the future, though, depending on how much revenue the toxics control accounts generate.

Who is eligible for the grant money?

To qualify for a public participation grant, a group must prove it can manage the grant through sound financial and administrative practices. Applicants must show they can set and meet project deadlines, comply with accounting, auditing, and procurement requirements, and keep thorough records. Interested groups must also show a commitment to public education and involvement – through newsletters or public meetings, for example.

How you can find out more

Qualified groups or organizations may apply to the Washington Department of Ecology.

At least two funding cycles will be set every two years. The grants may be renewed annually.

For more information contact:

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